

## Message Text

PAGE 01 TOKYO 15272 240604Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O 240542Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8357

S E C R E T TOKYO 15272

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ENRG JA

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER REFUTES PRESS REPORTS ON SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: TOKYO 15255

1. FONOFF AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRGEN OKAWARA HAS TOLD ME THAT DURING A MEETING WITH JAPANESE PRESS ON NOV 22, FOREIGN MINISTER OHIRA CALLED ATTENTION TO PRESS REPORTS DESCRIBED IN REFTEL. OHIRA STATED EMPHATICALLY THAT THESE REPORTS COMPLETELY UNFOUNDED; ON CONTRARY, HE CONSIDERED SECRETARY'S VISIT TO HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY HELPFUL AND POINTED OUT THAT THE SECRETARY HAD SHOWN A SYMPATHETIC ATTITUDE TOWARD PROBLEMS WHICH JAPAN FACING. OHIRA ADDED THAT HE HAD OBTAINED CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT SECRETARY WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD TO ASSIST JAPAN IN MEETING THOSE PROBLEMS. ALTHOUGH SECRETARY NOT IN POSITION TO BE SPECIFIC, OHIRA SAID, HIS MEETING WITH OIL COMPANY EXECUTIVES DEMONSTRATED SECRETARY'S CONCERN.

2. UNFORTUNATELY, NO AMERICAN OR OTHER FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS WERE PRESENT AT THIS MEETING, AND JAPANESE PRESS HAS NOT YET REPORTED FOREIGN MINISTER'S REMARKS. THIS LATTER CIRCUMSTANCE PROBABLY EXPLAINED BY FACT THAT, SO FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE, NO JAPANESE LANGUAGE PAPER OTHER THAN SANKEI CARRIED ORIGINAL STORY, IN ADDITION TO TWO ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPERS NOTED IN REFTEL.

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3. IN DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH OKAWARA, I SUGGESTED THAT OTHER OCCASIONS MIGHT ARISE FOR FOREIGN MINISTER OHIRA TO CORRECT THE UNFORTUNATE AND UNWARRANTED

IMPRESSION CREATED BY THESE STORIES, AND I EXPRESSED THE  
HOPE THAT HE WOULD DO SO. OKAWARA AGREED TO BEAR THIS  
IN MIND.  
SHOESMITH

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 11 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VISITS, MEETINGS  
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**Draft Date:** 24 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <19-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FOREIGN MINISTER REFUTES PRESS REPORTS ON SECRETARY'S VISIT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ENRG, JA, (OKAWARA), (OHIRA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005